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(54) Title: **CLARITHROMYCIN FORMULATIONS HAVING IMPROVED BIOAVAILABILITY**

(57) Abstract: A pharmaceutical composition includes micronized clarithromycin and exhibits improved dissolution characteristics relative to a pharmaceutical composition that includes unmiconized clarithromycin. The clarithromycin may have a particle size less than approximately 35 microns. One process for preparing an extended release tablet of the clarithromycin includes micronizing the clarithromycin; blending the micronized clarithromycin with one or more rate controlling polymers and pharmaceutically acceptable excipients; granulating the blend; and compressing to form a tablet. To treat a bacterial infection in a mammal in need of treatment, a patient may be administered a pharmaceutical composition that includes micronized clarithromycin.



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